



INTERNATIONAL SOCIETY OF ANTIQUE SCALE COLLECTORS

# President's Newsletter

Number 47. July, 1990.

MAYTIME MEMORIES ARE VERY MUCH WITH US.

Especially those that bring to mind our most recent convention in Philadelphia, unquestionably going in the record books as a most festive and fraternal occasion. About 85 members and spouses came to the party, and a delightful time was had by all. The program was replete with good things metrological, the food delicious, the hotel a suburban jewel, and the spirit of camaraderie ever present. Members from far-flung states such as California and Washington made their presence felt, along with others from Canada and England, the latter in the person of Diana Crawford, our perennial and personable guest. We can't be too effusive in our praise of Emil Cohn and Lew Weiss, and their spouses Ruth and Ruth, for their expert management of the convention. Everything from the opening get-acquainted session to the closing buffet lunch went off without a hitch, and the fine hand of Emil and Lew was evident at every turn.

For those who didn't make it to Philadelphia and must settle for sharing the experience vicariously, we've enclosed a souvenir copy of the program. It's not the same as being there, as we're sure you'd agree, so with that thought in mind, it's only fitting that here and now we apprise you that...

(over)



## NEXT MAY WE'RE CHICAGO BOUND.

And a return to the city that treated us so hospitably in 1984. Your officers, in their role as site committee, unanimously selected our "Kind of Town" for ISASC's 1991 conclave, and moreover, responding to the groundswell of member comments, voted to make the next and future conventions Thursday to Sunday affairs. And that's not all. The dates of May 2 to 5 have already been set, and the new Forum Hotel (ideally located on North Michigan Avenue) already booked. So don't say we didn't give you fair notice. Right now is the time to circle the dates on your calendar and to plan to be with us. And while you're at it, consider setting aside five days or a week and giving yourself an extended vacation. Chicago in May is beautiful, there's an endless choice of things to see and do, and you can take advantage of a special \$90 daily hotel rate for the two days before and the two days after our Thursday to Sunday stay.

## HIGH TECH ON THE HORIZON.

On several occasions in Philadelphia during which ISASC business was discussed, the matter of EQM arose, particularly in respect to the somewhat archaic means of production (an IBM typewriter) our editor is currently dependent on. The consensus of your officers was that ISASC has come of age to the point where we (Diana) deserve, and our Society can readily afford, a small computer to enable our editor to produce our magazine much more quickly and efficiently, to say nothing of the wider assortment of type styles and sizes such a machine would make available. Moreover, an additional benefit afforded by our own computer would be for us (Diana) to enter our original EQM Index (1978-1983) into its data base, then update it through 1990 and on a periodic calendarized schedule thereafter. The upshot of all this is that our editor has been authorized to investigate what's available in computers that will serve her needs best, determine its cost, and report her findings to ISASC's officers. If all goes as planned, it's most likely that 1991 will be our inaugural high tech year, and we'll keep you informed, of course.



KUDOS TO JAN MACHO (HOWEVER BELATED).

In the last President's Newsletter, we failed to mention that an important enclosure in the mailing was our 1989 Financial Statement, and what made the omission all the more embarrassing was that we neglected to acknowledge the especially important service rendered by Jan Macho, our devoted treasurer. Jan not only prepared the year-end statement, but throughout the year maintained our books and records in impeccable fashion. His services to ISASC are one of our mainstays, and we want to acknowledge that fact here and now. We do appreciate you, Jan, and you deserve to be told so every day of the year.

HERE COMES PROLIFIC GEORGE MALLIS.

There seems to be no end to what member George Mallis is up to in literary respects. The author of any number of booklets, pamphlets and articles on coin scales and weights, George is now busily engaged in writing a major work titled, "Proposed Standard Designation for Coin Weights." It will establish universal standards for identifying and indexing coin weights of various countries in the United Kingdom, central and western Europe, and North America, and knowing George's scholarly bent, it's certain to become a definitive tome on the subject. George already has completed the English section and at present is busily at work on other sections. And to give you an idea of where his heart lies, George has told us that the copyright will be turned over to ISASC, thus giving us the right to publish the document and to make it available to members as well as to the metrology world at large on whatever basis our Board of Directors deems appropriate. We'll have more to tell you as the work progresses, but meanwhile, thank you, George, for your exceptionally generous act.



MISCELLANY.

Much in the way of news has been happening these days, and here's an update of what's come our way --

- \* Diana Crawford was married this past June to Leslie Hitchins, who many of us met when he accompanied Diana to our San Francisco convention. We join Diana's many friends in ISASC in wishing Diana and Leslie the happiest of times in their newly wedded lives.
- \* Eileen Park, from Noranda, Western Australia, came to Chicago in late June to attend the wedding of her son to a Chicago girl, and while here found time to visit with us. Eileen and husband Ray, whose busy business prevented him from making the trip, own more than 1,600 scales, and have yet to stop looking and buying. Our visit with Eileen was a delight, and while we mainly talked scales, she found time to attend several of Chicago's antique fairs and acquire 30 or so scales to take home to Ray. Moreover, she left our fair city telling us that she and Ray were going to make every effort to return to Chicago for our convention next May. We can tell you now, Eileen, that you and Ray will get the prize for having travelled the furthest.
- \* As he does every year, member Peter DiCristofaro sent us \$300 to pay his 1990 dues, the \$260 in excess of the normal stipend being his magnanimous way of acknowledging the value he places on ISASC membership. Thank you, Peter. It's always a pleasure doing business with you.
- \* While on that subject, we also are pleased to acknowledge a check we received from member Irving Olson, along with a note that read, "Because Ruth and I enjoyed the Philadelphia convention so much and because the Society is such a success, I enclose \$200 as our free-will offering to make our group even more successful." Thank you, Irv. The sentiment is more appreciated than the money, and we gladly accept both.



- \* We recently received a letter from Mr. Omar Facelli & Sons, C.C. 6045, Montevideo, Uruguay, South America, which we reprint herewith verbatim, along with the suggestion that anyone interested in acquiring South American scales should contact Mr. Facelli directly.

"Dear Sirs,

First of all, I introduce me as a dealer on Antiques and Collectibles of the River-Platan market (URUGUAY - ARGENTINA) with 30 years of experience, who wants to meet new Dealers and Collectors in the American market.

I offer you a directly, easy-to-make, serious and periodical service of looking for, and finding your 'WANTED ITEMS' by myself. I only need to know if you are interested or not. Please send me a note so I'll begin the search.

...Ah! It's better for me if you can send me a 'WANTED LIST' (with average prices when possible). Thank you very much.

Yours Truly,

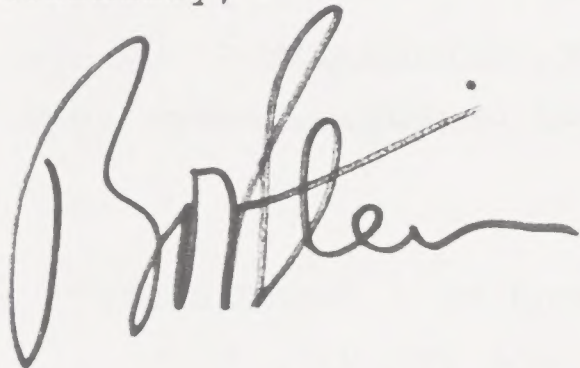
Omar Facelli"

- \* Our North American membership count is now 250, and the enclosed Directory Supplement tells you about those who most recently joined our ranks. (And do make sure it's properly inserted in your Directory.)
- \* As a reminder, keep in mind our "Ask Jerry" service, which gives every member the opportunity to put questions on any and every aspect of scale-collecting to our resident guru, Jerry Katz. And whenever you send an inquiry to Jerry, send us a copy and we'll do our best to include it in a future President's Newsletter so that members-at-large also are given the chance to provide some answers.

\* And, finally, for those of you who are into brain games, here's a challenge under the heading of "Weights and Means" that appeared in Games magazine several years ago. We'll provide the answers in the next President's Newsletter, but meanwhile, if you're able to come up with the solution on your own, send it to us. If you're right, we'll appropriately commend you in print; if you're wrong, we'll mercifully keep your identity anonymous. Fairer than that we can't be.

And on that weighty note, we'll end this missive. Have a pleasant summer, wherever your travels take you.

Fraternally,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Robert M. Jensen". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial "R" and a long horizontal flourish at the end.